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*The
Independent Voice of
Pender Harbour & Egmont
since 1990.*

HARBOUR SPIEL

APRIL 2009
ISSUE 220

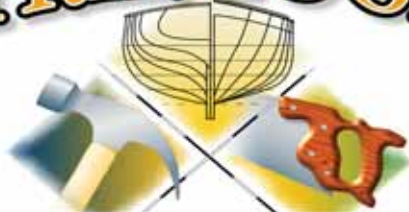


Local herring pool is all smiles
after Strait of Georgia fishery

PENDER HARBOUR, APRIL 25, 2009!

It's the 8th annual

APRIL TOOLS



WOODEN BOAT CHALLENGE

PADDLE or ROW our Classic Boats in the Harbour again...FREE!

Has your team got what it takes to build a boat in three hours with materials provided, race it round a short, marked course without sinking, and do it faster than anyone else? Then you could win \$700 (2nd place \$400, 3rd \$250). Get a 4-person team together and challenge your friends or co-workers to do the same. Entry fee is \$160 (or just \$140 if you register before April 1st!), for that you get a materials package and a t-shirt for each team member.

- ◆ Seafarer Millennium Park, Saturday, April 25, 2009.
- ◆ New construction "twist" and materials revealed at 10:00 am.
- ◆ Construction between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm.
- ◆ Youth race starts at 2:00 pm, adult race at 3:00 pm.
- ◆ Concessions and the always fun mini-boatbuilding for kids.

**TRADITIONAL
SMALL BOAT
SHOW!**

DON'T MISS... the Boat-Building Demonstrations and Displays. Also try paddling or rowing a CLASSIC WOODEN BOAT or a DRAGON BOAT in the Harbour for FREE!

FOR A REGISTRATION PACKAGE CALL

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The Pender Harbour April Tools Wooden Boat Challenge is a project of the Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society.

Visit our website: www.apriltools.ca



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HARBOUR SPIEL



The Independent Voice
of Pender Harbour &
Egmont since 1990

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EDITOR

Brian Lee.

CONTRIBUTORS

This month we thank: Jim Cosgrove, Darlene Fowlie, Eric Graham, Paul Hopkins, Cheyenne Lightbourn, Bricin Lyons, Shane McCune, Neil McDaniel, Cooper Pantages, Jim Rutherford, Beverly Saunders, Nolan Sawatzky and Jan Watson. (Cover photo by Cooper Pantages.)

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EDITORIAL

Finding love at the landfill



By Brian Lee

News is our dump's full and we may soon have to ship our garbage south.

If so, we should thank the good people of Sechelt for storing our toxic diapers for the next thousand years or so.

But there's a nostalgic piece of personal history that needs to be shared before memories of the landfill filter into the haze of time.

When I was in high school here in the '80s, our skills in wooing the ladies weren't exactly on par with our hormone levels.

Back then, boys here were a little culturally stunted — we had only a half dozen channels and no internet.

We also lacked "fashion sense." All the boys wore black T-shirts — someone had long ago proclaimed you were gay if you didn't. We never thought to question it.

For the most part, local girls provided little relief. If you weren't already related to each other, the two of you were probably first naked in a crib in 1972 with pictures to prove it.

Mating attempts were concentrated on the summer girls — those stylish divas who'd wash in for a few short months every year from exotic lands like Kamloops or Langley.

They provided the accepted genetic distance from our own bloodlines but we soon learned these teenage tourists were cagier than our third cousins.

We weren't "cool" and some of them said we "dressed funny" or we "ONLY listen to AC/DC."

We didn't have a lot to work with and would literally spin our wheels trying to impress before stumbling upon one weapon that was surprisingly

deadly.

The local garbage dump.

I don't know how we discovered it — we were probably driving around in my parents Ford Fairmont with some girls who were camping at Lowes. It was night, we were uncomfortable, they were bored and someone just said, "Let's go see the bears."

"The BEARS!?" the girls (possibly) squealed.

Sure. In 1987 there wasn't a fence around the dump and you could drive right in and find five or six big, fat black bears gorging on remnant pork roast.

We'd sometimes end up there on a Friday night, challenging each other to see who could get the closest before one of the bears looked up and sent us squealing back to the car.

But even we never considered it as a romantic spot to take dates.

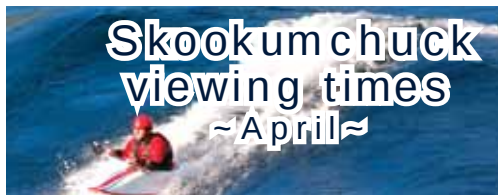
It turns out that tourist girls love this stuff and evolutionary programming had finally worked in our favour.

The spectacle of these wild, man (garbage) eating bears faced down by the brave men (boys) who would dare offer their bodies as protection seemed to release a flood of hormones. It was gold.

So we went back to the well time and time again, prostituting those bears for all we could until finally, tragically, someone fenced it off for good.

It didn't matter, we soon discovered lemon gin. But I still owe those dump bears a debt of gratitude. They accomplished a pretty daunting task — they made us look cool.

So, I'm tempted to throw one extra smelly bag over the wrong side of the fence to say, "Thanks, bear."



DATE TIME/SPEED: EBB OR FLOOD (Estimates only - Not intended for navigation.)

April 1	8:34/5.42 kt (F), 15:31/-10.63 kt (E)
April 2	9:34/4.04 kt (F), 16:45/-9.76 kt (E)
April 3	10:50/3.09 kt (F), 18:11/-9.2 kt (E)
April 4	12:26/3.19 kt (F), 19:46/-9.11 kt (E)
April 5	9:13/-6.41 kt (E), 14:02/4.66 kt (F)
April 6	10:04/-8.55 kt (E), 15:14, 6.75 kt (F)
April 7	10:49/-10.42 kt (E), 16:13/8.84 kt (F)
April 8	11:29/-11.74 kt (E), 17:06/10.67 kt (F)
April 9	12:04/-12.36 kt (E), 17:55/12.11 kt (F)
April 10	12:29/-12.31 kt (E), 18:43/13.06 kt (F)
April 11	12:41/-11.86 kt (E), 19:30/13.48 kt (F)
April 12	12:54/-11.27 kt (E), 20:18/13.42 kt (F)
April 13	13:15/-10.59 kt (E), 21:09/12.98 kt (F)
April 14	7:23/4.2 kt (F), 13:46/-9.79 kt (E)
April 15	8:09/3.13 kt (F), 14:31/-8.86 kt (E)
April 16	9:03/2.22 kt (F), 15:29/-7.92 kt (E)
April 17	10:09/1.63 kt (F), 16:34/-7.13 kt (E)
April 18	11:34/1/73 kt (F), 17:41/-6.59 kt (E)
April 19	13:08/2.89 kt (F), 18:47/-6.26 kt (E)
April 20	9:07/-7.16 kt (E), 14:20/4.81 kt (F)
April 21	9:48/-8.67 kt (E), 15:18/7 kt (F)
April 22	10:21/-10.03 kt (E), 16:09/9.24 kt (F)
April 23	10:48/-11.19 kt (E), 16:57/11.35 kt (F)
April 24	11:11/-12.13 kt (E), 17:43/13.14 kt (F)
April 25	11:36/-12.83 kt (E), 18:29/14.44 kt (F)
April 26	12:06/-13.23 kt (E), 19:17/15.16 kt (F)
April 27	12:43/-13.23 kt (E), 20:07/15.3 kt (F)
April 28	13:31/-12.8 kt (E), 21:03/15.03 kt (F)
April 29	7:29/5.05 kt (F), 14:29/-12 kt (E)
April 30	8:25/4.02 kt (F), 15:32/-10.95 kt (E)



This space is now available for your advertisement... call 883-0770.

SPIEL PICKS

MADEIRA MARKET AND P. H. COMMUNITY CLUB BAKE SALE - APRIL 5

The Madeira Market and Pender Harbour Community Club bake sale is now on Sundays. Come check out local artisans' wares as well as fresh baked goods, pre-owned treasures and more. Pender Harbour Community Hall, Sunday 10 a.m.

P. H. LIONS' PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND EASTER EGG HUNT - APRIL 12

Come out to the Pender Harbour Lions' Hall on Easter Sunday, April 12 for a pancake Breakfast and the traditional Easter Egg Hunt. Breakfast served from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the Easter Egg Hunt starts at noon.

P. H. MUSIC SOCIETY PRESENTS COCO LOVE ALCORN - APRIL 18

Spontaneous, playful and off the wall — these all describe Coco Love Alcorn. Her concerts engage the audience with that eye to eye contact, which makes everyone feel she's singing just for them. Her seductive alto voice, which extends over a broad stylistic and emotional range, adds to the appeal. But her concerts are mainly fun. Coco brings her Love to the Pender Harbour School of Music on Saturday, April 18 at 8 p.m.

APRIL TOOLS WOODEN BOAT CHALLENGE - APRIL 25

Madeira Park's Millennium Park will ring with the sound of hand tools once again on April 25. Between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. teams of builders will conspire to produce the fastest and most seaworthy craft possible from the pile of materials they have been given. The highlight is always the race that takes place afterward.

PHOTOJOURNAL



The Kerr Grabowski exhibit 'Wearable Stories' exhibit will be at the Fibreworks Gallery until April 26.

Bus service soon to be a reality for Area A

Area A will soon have bus service linking Egmont, Garden Bay, Madeira Park and Sechelt.

The 20-passenger bus currently sits in the compound at the SCRD Stellite Office in Madeira Park awaiting the hire of a driver but Area A director Eric Graham says he hopes to get it running by the end of April.

The bus is currently owned by the SCRD and purchased through federal gas tax rebate funding pursued by former Area A director John Rees.

A six-person community bus advisory group was formed recently to offer input on the management of the service.

The service will be on a six-month trial basis to assess ridership.

Graham says he is looking for an existing non-profit society to operate the bus outside of the SCRD budget process and, barring that, will consider setting up an entirely new non-profit society that would oversee its operation.

This operational plan is constructed to avoid the SCRD administration fee involved in setting up a new tax function like the Pender Harbour Pool in the annual budget if demand for the service isn't there.

"It's quite time-consuming to set it up and then tear it down and I need to impress upon everybody that this is a trial," says Graham.

"It's a temporary thing on the understanding to everybody that if it is not being used, it will be shut down."

If the trial does show demand for the service, Graham eventually hopes to receive a BC Transit subsidy that would cover 40 per cent of the operating costs going.

The bus will operate on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

A schedule hasn't been decided



The view from the back seat on Area A's new bus, a 20-seat, 2003 Ford. It should be operational later this month offering service from Egmont and Earl's Cove to Sechelt.

but Graham says the route will likely run from Madeira Park in the morning to Kleindale, Earls Cove and Egmont and back to Madeira Park and the Pender Harbour Health Centre again before setting off for Sechelt.

After a two hour layover, the bus would return, retracing its route back to Egmont and Earls Cove before returning to Madeira Park, eight hours after it left in the morning.

Because of logistical reasons, Garden Bay won't benefit from the service, at least initially.

"It's a long way and there's no convenient place where you can turn the thing around," says Graham.

"We have to have a spot where, if the bus is late, there's a coffee shop around and where you can park your cars."



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Marshall Mar artwork SUMMER BBQ STARTING MOTHER'S DAY Andy Cotton summer landscape photo

2009 BC Bike Race abandons Madeira Park start for fourth stage

It almost was.

It was rumoured last month that the fourth stage of the 540-kilometre, seven-stage BC Bike Race would start from Madeira Park instead of the Earl's Cove Ferry terminal as in previous years.

The Saltery Bay/Earl's Cove ferry is too small to accommodate the 500-plus riders and attendants who were expected this year.

It was decided riders would arrive at the Madeira Park Government

wharf on the morning of July 1 from Comox via the Malibu Princess.

Organizers changed it back to an Earl's Cove start when fewer registrations than expected made the ferry crossing feasible.

Riders will pass through local trails before ending in Sechelt that afternoon. Stage five stretches from Sechelt to Gibsons.

The race starts in Vancouver, heads across to Nanaimo and goes north to Parksville and Cumberland

before hitting the Sunshine Coast. The course then takes riders up the Sea to Sky corridor before ending in Whistler on July 4.

The BC Bike Race attracts top professional mountain bikers from all over the world as well as hundreds of amateur athletes looking to experience BC trails.

In past races, the Sunshine Coast leg has been lauded as for its large volume of well-maintained single track trails.

All candidates meeting scheduled for April 17

Local residents will get a chance to hear what provincial MLA hopefuls have to say at an all candidates debate slated for 7 p.m. on April 17 at the Pender Harbour Community Hall.

The debate is sponsored by the

Pender Harbour and Egmont Chamber of Commerce. It will include our West Vancouver/Sunshine Coast's incumbent MLA, Nicholas Simons (NDP) and Liberal candidate Dawn Miller.

The debate will run for 90 min-

utes with each candidate getting three minutes for opening remarks followed by pre-submitted questions read by a moderator.

Each candidate will also be given two minutes for closing remarks.



PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

HEALTH IN MOTION

APRIL!

SPLASHIN' SNEAKERS 'N SNACKS!: No school, send the kids to the pool! Noon to 3 p.m. on Monday April 6. \$2 admission (Mondays Wet Set will go ahead at regular time, 3:15-5:15pm)

EASTER BONNET AQUAFIT: Wednesday, April 8, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Wear your best Easter bonnet and join in on the fun. Pot luck brunch to follow.

FAMILY EASTER SWIM: Sunday, April 12, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Come hop down the bunny trail for an Easter egg hunt & more!

RENOVATION COUNTDOWN: The facility is getting a makeover! In order to be successful in the construction process, the facility will be closing earlier than usual, May 16-Sept. 14 inclusive. We will be updating the progress of the project on our website at www.scrd.ca

SUMMER ACTIVE: Our goal is to keep outdoor fitness programs happening from May 16 – July 31. Boot Camp, Nordic Pole Walking (on and off road), Babies and Buggies, FAB (50 and beyond, ladies only): Strength Training Interval Walking. More info to follow.

All programs require pre-registration and payment one week prior to start date.

For our complete schedule of swim times and fitness classes visit us on the web at www.scrd.ca under Services.

(604) 885-6866



Pender Harbour and Vancouver soon to be linked by air service

A Saltspring Island airline will begin regular floatplane service to Vancouver Harbour from Madeira Park starting May 8.

Saltspring Air will offer flights leaving downtown Vancouver every Friday and Monday at 11 a.m. and arrive 18 minutes later at the docks at Painted Boat in Madeira Park.

The seven-passenger DeHavilland DHC-2 Beaver will then leave Painted Boat to return to Vancouver at 1 p.m.

A one-way flight will cost \$79 per person and flights will require a minimum passenger booking of four.

Pickup can also be arranged at YVR's South Terminal for groups of

four or more.

It is Pender Harbour's first regular air service in many years.

Ken Delf, president of Painted Boat Development Ltd., said in a press release that if the demand is what he expects, they will consider a similar service on Sundays as well.

Madeira Market moves to Sunday

The Madeira Market day has been changed from Saturday to Sunday.

In an effort to boost its profile, organizers felt a change was needed.

"We are having a try at holding the market on Sundays — the reason being we lose a lot of vendors to the Farmers' Market in Sechelt on Saturdays during the summer," organizer Freda McDermott told the Harbour Spiel via e-mail.

"This town is full of artisans we cannot seem to attract."

The next Madeira Market will take place on Sunday, April 5 at the usual time from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tables can be rented for \$10.

Phone McDermott at (604) 883-1313 to reserve.

PHOTOJOURNAL



Paul Hopkins photo

Winter stayed late this year as snow fell through late March. This accident occurred on Feb. 25 near the Capilano Highways works yard near Sakinaw Lake. Apparently a motorist went off the road which caused the first closure and when his friend came to pick him up he banged into a vehicle and closed the road again.

BOATERS...

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The fee of \$55 for CPS members, \$65 for non-members includes the four evenings' instruction, examination by your instructor, the issuance of your lifetime certificate and all course materials.

Location: Pender Harbour High School

Dates: Mondays April 20, 27, May 4, 11 2009

Time: 1900 hrs to 2100 hrs

Registration & Information: David Pearson 604-883-9313, djpearson@dccnet.com



Please register by Friday, April 10.

Course includes the Digital Selective Calling endorsement and allows you to apply for your Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) number. Connected to your GPS, this service can save your life.

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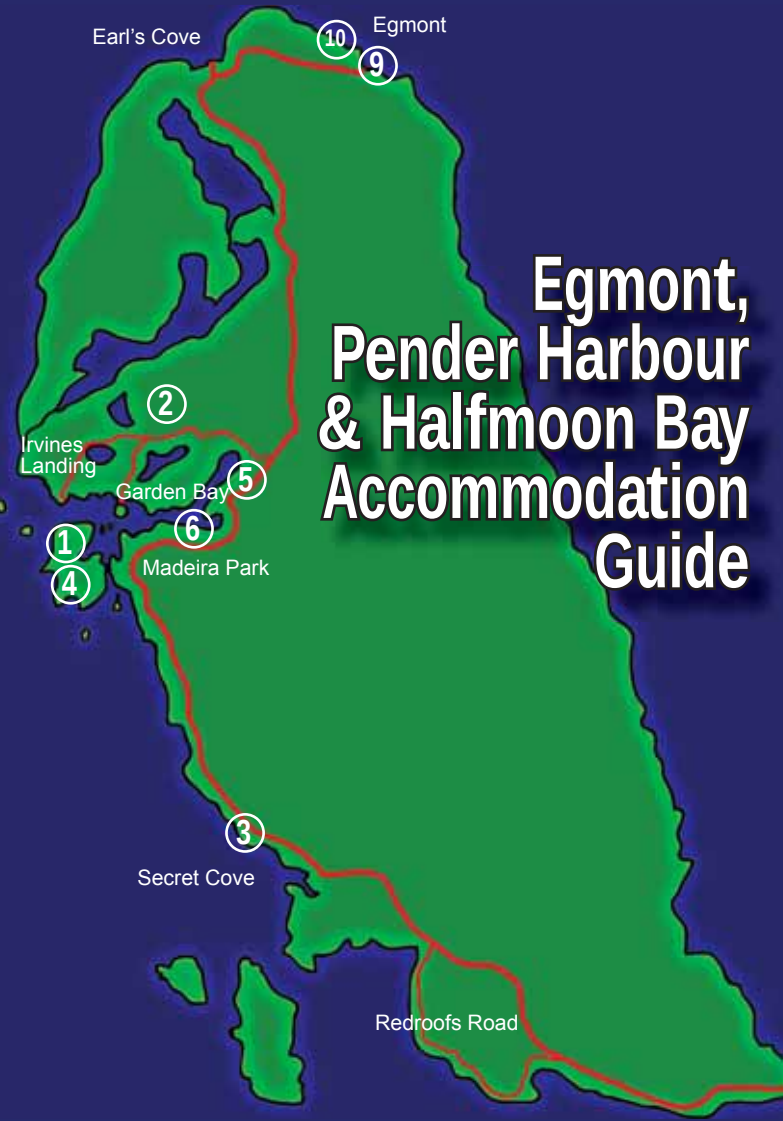


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francispointbb.com





Egmont, Pender Harbour & Halfmoon Bay Accommodation Guide

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backeddy.ca



BATHGATE'S GENERAL STORE, RESORT & MARINA
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bathgate.com



Space available

Space available

Page 8

Harbour Spiel

SCRD announces it's time for some serious trash talk

The Pender Harbour Landfill will soon reach maximum capacity forcing a decision by the Sunshine Coast Regional District about whether to begin transferring garbage to the Sechelt landfill or expand the current site.

The site, which has been in operation more than 40 years, will reach maximum capacity in 2010.

The SCRDR will soon begin public consultation in order to decide what the next step should be.

A consultant hired by the SCRDR has proposed three options for waste disposal in Area A:

1. Close the P. H. Landfill and maintain a compaction and transfer station that would see all future waste hauled to the Sechelt landfill.

2. Expand westward by adding 5,424 square metres to the current footprint. This option would see the Forest Service road that borders the landfill moved higher so waste could continue to be layered on top of the current site. This option would increase the landfill's lifespan by 16 years.

3. Expand the site northward, adding an additional footprint of 14,744 square metres. This would increase the lifespan by 29 years.

The consultant's report stressed there may be additional requirements by regulatory authorities like the Ministry of Environment that could add to costs associated with closure or expansion.

The report concluded that the closure of the the landfill and construction of a transfer station in its place would have the least environmental impact while providing the most economical solution.

The "lifecycle break-even tipping fee" is what the SCRDR would have to charge per tonne to break even over



It looks a lot bigger from the bottom. The Pender Harbour Landfill is almost filled to capacity and must close or expand by 2010. It's been proposed that the most cost effective solution is to transfer future waste to the Sechelt Landfill.

the period of analysis (2010 to 2063).

It takes into account a variety of factors including future waste volumes, closure costs, capital and operating costs.

The compactor/transfer station option would be cheapest by far costing \$116 per tonne. The western expansion would ultimately cost \$132 per tonne and northern expansion the most expensive option at \$143 per tonne.

The current tipping fee of \$90 per tonne falls well below the costs associated with all three options so it is likely that tipping fees would increase or the SCRDR would absorb future costs.

Dion Whyte, manager of sustainable services with the SCRDR, says a closure wouldn't impact staffing levels but there would likely be a shift in equipment contracts as duties shift from landfilling to transferring.

The report didn't take into account the effects of greenhouse gas emissions of transferring waste to Sechelt and a report on that should be

completed by early April.

"The recommendation we got from our board was simply not to make any decisions until we've gone through the GHG analysis and the public consultation," said Whyte.

Whyte expects to begin public consultation by late April or May.

~~BUS DRIVER WANTED~~

The Pender Harbour/Egmont Community Bus Advisory Committee requires a qualified bus driver for our 20-passenger bus service.

The applicant must have a class 4 drivers licence (with 2 or 3 years professional driving experience preferred), supply a 5 year driver's abstract, an RCMP criminal record check and be available for two - eight hour days per week plus charter bus trips.

Please apply in writing no later than

April 15, 2008 to:

P. H./Egmont Community Bus Advisory Committee
c/o Allen Cres, Compartment 7
Garden Bay, B.C.
VON 1S0



Area A budget increase is lowest on the Coast at 5.3 per cent



By Eric Graham
SCRD Director,
Area A

BUDGET

It's bad news and good news.

The bad news is that after

round three, the Area A part of the budget will be very close to 5.2 per cent higher than last year.

The good news is that of all eight electoral areas, the Pender Harbour/Egmont budget has the lowest increase, the highest being 29.3 per cent (District of Sechelt).

The provincial tax bill that you

will receive in June is a combination of many different taxes.

The Sunshine Coast Regional District portion will be 41.6 per cent of the total, the rest of it will be for school 40.8 per cent, rural provincial 11.1 per cent, miscellaneous 5.7 per cent and police 0.9% per cent. This is if the portions are the same as the 2008 Provincial tax bill.

So, the ultimate portion increase on the total bill will be about 2.2 per cent.

There could be some minor changes so I can't confirm the figures until next month. Stay tuned.

to send in the proper form stating they did not want Area A to borrow this money.

It was advertised in the Coast Reporter twice and the March 2008 issue of the Harbour Spiel.

On April 8, 2008 (the required deadline) 24 forms were received.

Thus the project was approved and the charging of each lot in Area A a parcel tax of \$25/lot per year for 20 years.

This recent parcel tax notice is to correct any errors or omissions, by filling out the attached form and sending it in by March 20.

PARCEL TAX NOTICE

I have been receiving a lot of calls about a legal notice sent out to all taxpayers recently.

The "Parcel Tax Notice" is in regard to last spring's Alternate Approval Process request to borrow \$865,140 for the renovation of the Pender Harbour Pool.

This Alternate Approval Process required 206 tax payers from Area A

LAFARGE PIT, EGMONT

During the election I received many complaints about the increase in noise coming from the gravel pit.

This past month a meeting was held with management from LaFarge, local residents, myself and two SCRD staff members.

LaFarge agreed to review hours of the crusher and try to restrict noisy late evening activity and make machinery modifications to reduce noise.

It is agreed that we will meet again in six months to report if the modifications have reduced the noise level in Egmont.

THE BUS

A bus advisory committee had its first meeting and job one is to hire a bus driver (see ad p. 9).

Once the driver is hired we hope to have the bus up and running towards the end of April.

The bus will charge \$2 between Egmont and Pender Harbour and \$5 between Pender Harbour to Sechelt.

The schedule will be one trip Wednesday and one trip on Saturday, Egmont to Sechelt with a two-hour

The Brighterside
CARPET CLEANING

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Art. In Yurts.

Kerr Grabowski's
"Wearable Stories" exhibit
continues through April 26.

Check the website for workshop information:

Angelika Werth: April 2 to 5
Deconstructed/Reconstructed Garment

Ursula Bentz: April 18
Dimensional Felting

FIBRE WORKS
STUDIO & GALLERY



FibreWorks Studio & Gallery

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We're open Wednesday to Sunday 11a.m. to 5 p.m. & by appt.

layover then return.

This is the plan for now. It will be subject to change once we have done some trial runs.

The challenge will be to attract riders to make it cost effective.

Once it is running it will be important to the committee to hear from the riders on how to improve the service without increasing costs.

AREA PLANNING COMMISSION (APC)

I would like to welcome aboard two new committee members, Janet Dickin and Catherine McEachern, to fill the full complement of 12 volunteers who now sit on the APC.

PRECISE

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Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 - 4:30

(604) 885-6800 (tel)

(604) 885-7909 (fax)

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Thursday, April 2, 2009

- 1:30 p.m. Infrastructure Services Committee

Thursday, April 9, 2009

- 1:30 p.m. Planning and Development Committee
- 7:30 p.m. Board

Thursday, April 16, 2009

- 10:00 a.m. Special Infrastructure Services Committee (Watershed)
- 1:30 p.m. Community Services Committee

Thursday April 23, 2009

- 1:30 p.m. Corporate and Administrative Services Committee
- 7:30 p.m. Board

DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Director Eric Graham is available to meet with residents to discuss local issues related to the Sunshine Coast Regional District government. He can be reached at home at 604-883-9061 or by email, ericgraham@dccnet.com.

AREA A ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

The Area A APC will meet on
Wednesday, April 29 at 7 p.m.
Room 107, Pender Harbour High School

SCRD SATELLITE OFFICE – AREA A

Located at 12828 Lagoon Rd. Open from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday. Services provided include:

- full-time staff provide information and direct inquiries
- website access to the SCRD
- water services staff available five days a week
- building inspectors and planning staff available by appointment
- building permit applications and other forms available on site
- secure drop-off location for plans, applications and documents

Phone: 604-885-6877 or Email: info@scrd.ca

LET'S TALK

The North Pender Harbour Water Advisory Committee is holding an

Annual General Meeting on Tuesday May 5, 2009, at 7 p.m.

This public meeting is held at the Pender Harbour Resort, 4686 Sinclair Bay Road, Garden Bay.

All are welcome!

A glimmer of hope: The Pacific herring and it's connection to



Cooper Pantages photo

By Brian Lee

Tenas pish. Ool'-chus. Nishin. Stan'et. *Clupea pallasii*.

Pacific herring. It's possible no other species has played as important a role in sustaining life along the Pacific Rim.

For thousands of years, man and animal from California around the Bering Sea to Japan have relied on these shimmering clouds of fish protein to provide a seemingly inexhaustible supply of food.

Even human settlement in Pender Harbour can likely be attributed to the "Stan'et," a Salish word for herring.

It wasn't long ago that the waters of Pender Harbour teemed with the viscous schools and they surely contributed to the growth of Kalpalin, the Sechelt winter village in Garden Bay.

Kalpalin was once home to a population of over 5,000 people — double the current population of Area A. Some estimates peg the numbers even higher.

Natives fished herring and also harvested its roe by hanging hemlock boughs in the water during the herring's spring spawn.

Afterwards, the boughs would be pulled up, encrusted with sticky,

yellow roe which was eaten fresh or dried.

In *Raincoast Chronicles First Five* (Harbour Publishing), Martha Warnock recalled a fish company first towing a herring saltery barge up to Donnelly's Landing in 1914.

"That's when the herring fleet came to the Harbour. At that time Pender Harbour was polluted with herring. You would be killing them with the oars as you rowed along."

Billy Griffith used to fish herring and says the Pender Harbour herring stocks would spawn in Bargain Harbour.

In Sechelt Inlet, there was a large spawn every year on the beach in Porpoise Bay plus a smaller one in the eelgrass along the side of Narrows Arm.

During the spawn, herring come together in immense numbers to provide a veritable feast for predators.

The Pacific herring is often referred to as a "keystone species."

It's a term that implies a certain ecological gravity and deservedly so — herring reproduce in astonishing numbers to overcome predation and ensure the success of its species.

But it's not just the sheer volume of biomass that makes the herring so

important to the marine ecosystem. It's hard to find a species that doesn't directly or indirectly benefit from herring predation.

They are consumed year round by salmon and cod, which in turn feed larger mammals like seals and whales.

Even bears and eagles benefit indirectly from the herring bounty by feeding on salmon.

But it's during the biological phenomenon of their spawning that the herring's role in the food chain — and economy — becomes abundantly clear.

There are five major herring stocks on the BC coast — Prince Rupert, the central coast, Queen Charlotte Islands, the west coast of Vancouver Island and the Strait of Georgia.

Each spring in the Strait of Georgia, a spawn of unimaginable magnitude occurs in the shallow waters between Parksville and Comox and Hornby and Denman Island.

The 2009 forecast of total biomass for the area was 58,985 tonnes — that means there are approximately 250 million herring exchanging sexual favours during a frantically short time.

This biological marvel attracts a staggering variety of birds, fish and marine mammals that feast not only

Harbour Spiel

Pender Harbour

on the herring but the sticky eggs that mass on seaweed, kelp and rocks.

A single, mature female herring can lay more than 30,000 eggs each year and it's this roe, prized in Japan as a delicacy, which fuels the modern commercial fishery.

Billy Griffith quit fishing herring in 1954.

Though he continued fishing other species like salmon and prawns, Griffith had misgivings about how the industry was handled in those days and refused to take part.

Herring were pursued all over the coast through the middle part of the last century through a reduction fishery that harvested large volumes of herring to extract proteins and oil from the flesh for animal feed.

During the peak of the reduction fishery in the early 1960s, the annual catch surpassed 250,000 tonnes until overharvesting, combined with poor oceanic conditions, caused a crash in 1967.

Griffith says there were a number of fishermen from Pender Harbour and Egmont who fished herring in those days. He remembers taking the photo on this page.

"When that picture was taken, the crewmen were getting about \$30 a ton... to divide up between seven or so men," says Griffith.

"It took a big crew to brail properly."

Herring are resilient and by the early 1970s coastal herring populations seemed to bounce back and Japanese interest in the herring roe spawned a new — and more valuable — fishery.

The modern roe fishery began in 1972 and has been managed much

(continued on next page)



Duncan/Warnock family collection/William Griffith photographer

Billy Griffith is pretty sure he took this photo and proves his memory is pretty good. 'I think it was November 1953. The *Sea Angel II* (Jim Warnock) made the set. It was 70 tons. The *B.C. Kid* (Bill) came to help. That is the *B.C. Kid* brailing. Harry Brown is by the door. Abby Burt is standing by the winch. Martin Warnock is on the packer (Possibly the *Kaare II*, I cannot remember.) He is the bald head bending over. Jack Rouse was on the 40-foot brailer handle but you cannot see him. The brail has about 1,500 pounds in it.

'The *B.C. Kid* had a 45-horsepower three cylinder Atlas diesel. The *Sea Angel* had a 65-horse Cat. The *Kerry W* by then had a 55-horse Cat. Before it had a smaller Fairbanks, I believe. The *Sea Luck* had a 90 horse Vivian first, then a 120-horse Cat. Later the *B.C. Kid* and the *Sea Angel* both had 165-horse GM diesels.'

Pacific herring (cont.)

(continued from page 13)

more closely than the reduction fishery to ensure sustainable harvests.

Griffith still sees a problem with the fishery and thinks the herring caught are too small.

"In those days the herring were big," says Griffith.

"We didn't fish baby herring. We did not set on schools of small herring if we could avoid it. Our nets were bigger mesh than they use now and the small herring would gill. Nowadays they fish baby herring."

A herring starts spawning at around age 3 but keeps growing to age 15.

Griffith seined the fish, scooping up entire schools at a time and feels seining should be abandoned for the gillnet fishery which allows the smaller fish to escape.

Better still, he says, would be to harvest the roe exclusively through the more traditional roe on kelp fishery where kelp fronds are hung in the water in advance of the spawn and harvested without killing the fish.

Other critics are more vocal and say we should leave the herring alone altogether.

In 1999, the Western Canada Wilderness Committee called for a four-year, coast-wide moratorium on

the herring fishery.

They claim the Pacific coastal ecosystem depends on the herring for survival and allowing any harvest is irresponsible until it can be shown that the entire ecosystem is reasonably healthy.

In their 2006 *State of the Catch* report, the David Suzuki Foundation disagreed with the WCWC by listing the Pacific herring as sustainably harvested and adding "the fishery seems to be well-managed."

Jake Schweigert is the section head for conservation biology at DFO's Pacific Marine Biological Station in Nanaimo.

He's confident that the Strait of Georgia herring stocks aren't in jeopardy and defends DFO's management plan.

"The feeling seems to be that if you have more herring around here then you'd have more of some of the other species but it's not that simple. I think the management policy, or the harvest policy, is quite conservative," says Schweigert.

"You know, we're only harvesting 20 per cent which leaves a lot more herring out there to support ecosystem processes than we had with the reduction fishery when we were catching 70 and 80 per cent of the herring on the coast."

The three methods of harvesting the prized roe are purse seining, gill-netting and the roe on kelp fishery.

Purse seining involves surrounding a school with a tight meshed (one-inch wide) net and closing the ends and bottom, thereby trapping the fish.

This year (2009) seine fishing was limited to 252 licences coast wide. There are 1,268 herring gillnet licences fishing on the BC coast this year.



Cooper Pantages photo

'Milt tastes great!' Chuck Fenn hauling a morning gillnet set north of Parksville.

Gillnetting involves laying a net approximately 20 feet deep with a larger mesh designed to ensnare the herring as they swim through it.

Both of these methods harvest the entire fish and harvests are managed so that no more than 20 per cent of the total fish population is caught.

In 2009, the maximum yield for the Strait of Georgia (for both fisheries) was set at 11,797 tonnes.

After the roe is removed from the females for processing, both sexes of herring are rendered into animal feed or fertilizer.

The yellow roe is processed and shipped to Japan where it is known as Kazunoko. The highest quality roe is packaged and sold as high-end gifts.

The roe on kelp fishery involves the laying of kelp fronds in areas where the herring naturally spawn and harvesting the roe-encrusted kelp for processing.

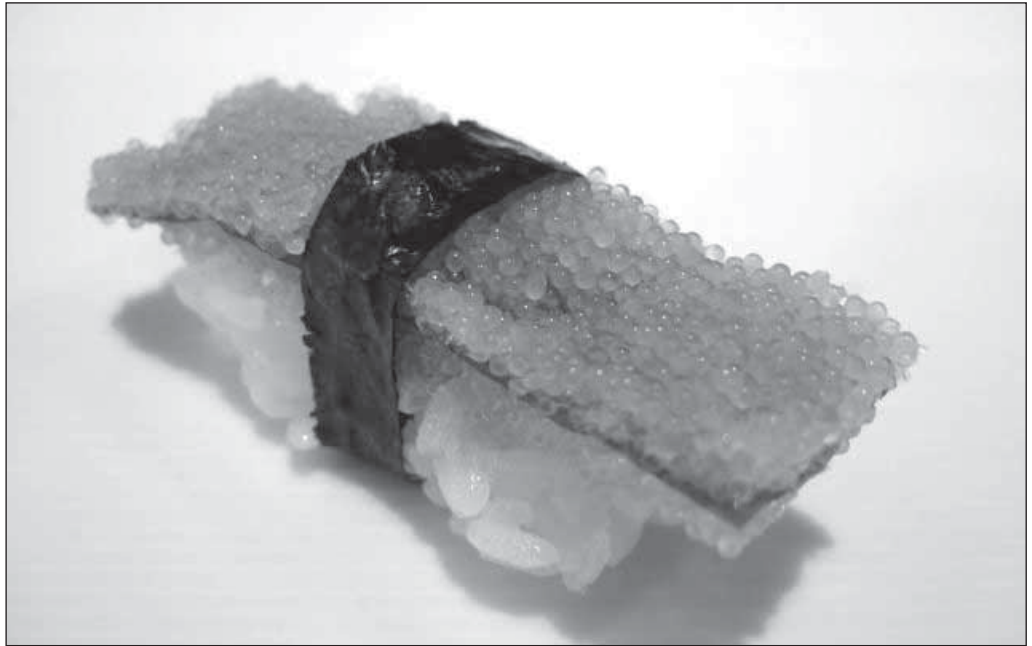
This method ensures the survival of the herring but isn't used in the Strait of Georgia because of the lack of suitable kelp.

Komochi konbu, as it is known in Japan, roughly translates to "many babies" and is associated with luck and fertility. It has long been a popular gift during New Year celebrations.

Poor economic conditions in Japan have seen the price paid for roe on kelp slide in recent years. The price paid to the 46 BC licence holders has declined from a high of \$45 a pound in the mid-1990s to about \$14 a pound in 2008.

For the roe herring fishery Kazunoko markets, the prices seem to have stabilized.

In 2006, gillnet herring fishermen received \$8.85 a pound and it looked like market fluctuations might signal the death knell for the



stock photo

Roughly translated from Japanese as 'many babies,' the delicacy known as Komochi konbu, or roe on kelp, is associated with fertility and luck in Japan, making it a popular gift during New Year celebrations.

industry.

But the price has risen steadily since. Last year the price of roe rose to \$12.85 a pound and may go higher this year.

Despite this market instability, the herring industry was worth \$18.6 million to BC fishermen last year. The industry revenue (including income made by the fish processing companies) was more than \$57 million.

The industry is no less important to Pender Harbour and the herring spawn has become the harbinger of spring for local commercial fisher-

men.

The gillnet fishery employs a couple of dozen local men with another dozen or so taking part in the roe on kelp fishery.

Despite the fact the fishing takes place in other areas like Prince Rupert, Comox or Smith Inlet, their boats and gear reside here and so does the derived income.

The direct and indirect benefits of the Japanese sushi market on the Pender Harbour economy are hard to quantify but it probably pumps more than a million dollars into services

(continued on next page)

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Pacific herring (cont.)

(continued from page 15)

like welding, tools and equipment, groceries and moorage.

The future of the industry is unclear. It's as dependent on the Japanese economy as on the health of the herring stocks themselves.

All fishing requires a little optimism and as the local herring pools continue to acquire more licences, they hope their good fortune will continue.

Schweigert thinks they will. He says the Georgia Strait herring stocks seem to be undergoing a natural upswing. But there's some question about whether the Pender Harbour herring are genetically different than the Strait of Georgia schools.

Through the '70s and '80s, the Pender Harbour herring population suffered from commercial harvesting as well as a sports bait fishery for recreational salmon mooching.

The smaller, less migratory local herring stocks are more vulnerable to overfishing and habitat destruction.

Schweigert says there are many things that can affect a herring population but you can't discount the loss of spawning sites in areas like Pender Harbour as the waterfront gets developed.

"I think in general that these local populations — if they really exist and are genetically different from the major migratory populations — are quite small and, as a result, more prone to impacts from even small fisheries for bait, impacts from seal and sea lion predation and environmental degradation than the larger population," says Schweigert.

"Given the fact that seal abundance has increased from about 10,000 animals in the Strait of Georgia in the early 1970s to about 40,000



Cooper Pantages photo

As the gillnetted herring are hauled in, they're knocked into brailered compartments in the bottom of the herring punt by the spinning 'beater bar' — with a little help from (l-r) Tucker Pantages, Richard Malcolm and Ian MacKay.

today, I would expect them to be having an impact by culling the older, larger herring from many of these populations."

Billy Griffith recalls how technology contributed to overharvesting in the days before the stocks were managed.

"Ed Warnock knew there was a big bunch of herring on the reefs down at Thormanby and he used to go and he'd set on them and he'd rip his net all to shreds. Every week or 10 days — or whenever he'd get the net patched up again — he'd go and try again and never did catch those herring," says Griffith.

"Then a year or two later they found the lights — the sodium vapour lights — would attract the herring and then the big boats came up (from Vancouver) and sat out in the deep water and lured them out and caught them all.

"They did the same here in

Sechelt Inlet."

Griffith says the herring populations never recovered.

The big herring in Pender Harbour are no more but schools of smaller ones still mill around at different times through out the year.

And it seems they might also be on the rebound.

They're easier to see on a dark night when the silver streaks of phosphorescence give away their numbers.

On such a night last summer, I travelled by boat between Egmont and Pender Harbour.

The route was lit the entire way by streaking herring whose numbers defy imagination.

As our bow wake disturbed their torpor, they'd shoot off on all sides... like ephemeral glimmers of hope for an entire marine ecosystem.

Pike pushes for water as top budget priority

To: Directors of Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD)

Directors: Please be advised that the budget must contain monies for the SCRD Area A Water Master Plan and in particular starting with the Water Treatment Plant design for N/S Pender Harbour and a possible immediate secondary filtration unit placed as soon as possible on Francis Peninsula.

The water quality and sediment in the distribution system can only be described as Third World quality.

It ruins pipes, hot water tanks, stains everything, looks terrible and, for someone with a compromised immune system and for the elderly and children, it is a deadly toxin you're pushing through the pipes.

All other water projects should be placed on hold in other areas and this become the highest priority since

federal funds are available for immediate infrastructure projects.

Now and not later is the time to act to protect the health and advance the quality of life in our over-taxed and under-funded SCRD Area A.

Respectfully,
Keith Pike
Madeira Park

Map shows potential IPP volume

Dear Editor,

I am concerned about the multitude of applications for water licences on all our streams and rivers for private power generation.

Many of these applications are not even by Canadians.

If these are approved it will open the door for NAFTA rules to allow water export which we will not be able to stop.

An interesting site to look at in colour is : <http://www.ippwatch.info/gmap/map.php>

Billy Griffith



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King of shrubs: Rhododendrons

By Jim Rutherford &
Nolan Sawatzky

So regal but so easy.

Propagation of rhododendrons on the Coast is made easy by our usually temperate climate and acidic soil (PH -7).

March is a great time to go hunting for a rhodo that's just right for you in colour and height as you can plant in your borders, even when in bloom.

Let's not quibble here on nomenclature — whether hybrids or species, concentrate on "available."

Gree's *Guidebook to Available Rhododendrons* is an industry standard reference book and your nursery may have a copy.

The plant label may give you information you need such as blooming

period, height and fragrance.

The Pink Pearl variety can get to 18 feet.

PLANTING

Our best results for rhodos are in the transition between meadow (lawns) and woodlands. That is, the foliage is in sun but the roots are in dappled shade. Too deep a shade can cause the rhodo not to bloom.

Rhodos are tough and very resilient in transplanting/planting and pruning but evenly moist soil is the rule.

The roots are surprisingly shallow but dense. Even large rhodos will take transplanting but only if you don't dry out the root ball.

Submerge the roots in a bucket of water while digging a new hole to size.

As a guideline the hole should be twice as deep and wide as the root ball and that goes for all planting efforts.

We're looking for an acid soil with a pH of 4.5 to 6 that is rich and well-drained.

Peat moss and bark mulch is a good additive to lighten the texture of heavy soils and give aeration.

Tamp the soil in well but leave the fibrous root mass just below soil level.

Don't bank the soil on the stem, but cup it around the plant so water runs in.

CUTTING

March is a great time — if you have the heart to cut rhodos to bring inside.

The flower head should have a little blush of colour.

Smash the woody cut end with a hammer for water absorption, add floral preservative and arrange in a tall vase.

Let the wild zen character of your cut branches show off with the twisted stems going every which way for the natural look.

PRUNING

Don't be a chicken in cutting off branches as rhodos will take a severe and brutal pruning.

You may lose a season of bloom, but not the plant.

Pinching back encourages new growth, making the shrub fuller and thicker. It is important for the first two or three years of growth as you can shape the plant to suit your 'space.'

For leggy and bare-stemmed rhodos, there isn't much you can do but prune off the growing tips. That restarts growth from the bottom.

Make your cut just above a leaf rosette, the new growth will appear from the dormant eye.

For major surgery and recovery time, look further down the branch to find small bumps (growth buds) under



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the bark. Just above the bumps should be rings, which mark ends of growth periods, where once there were leaves.

Prune some every year, up to a third, then you'll still have blooms and new growth happening all the time.

DEADHEADING

Deadheading is not essential, but is helpful.

A question at one of Ron Knight's classes was asked:

"Do I have to deadhead?"

"Mother Nature doesn't," Ron answered.

Removing the old blossom head does focus the strength of the shrub in producing buds.

FERTILIZING

All this pruning and shaping is best done after the rhodos bloom and offers a good chance to add a nitrogen/phosphorus-rich fertilizer (16 - 20 - 0) to encourage new growth.

Rhododendrons are not heavy feeders so if the plant is flowering well and producing new growth (six to eight inches per year) then they don't really need much help.

Perhaps a light application of a balanced (complete) fertilizer won't hurt.

A rhodo fertilizer with not too high a nitrogen count (4 - 12 - 10) will keep the foliage that glossy green that you want but still encourage the plant to set buds.

Aluminum sulphate will reduce soil pH levels which is ideal for acid loving plants such as rhodos and other broad leaf evergreens like camellias and Pieris but keep it away from lilacs and clematis.

Natural mulching is still the best, but not all mulch materials are

created equal.

For rhodos and other broadleaf evergreens we're looking for an acid mulch such as bark mulch from acid loving evergreens (fir, hemlock and cedar).

Sometimes you'll be offered bark mulch for free, which will be bark chips from alder or maple.

These chips and deciduous leaves decompose to be alkali (PH+7) which makes a great mulch for perennials and such but not for acid-loving plants.

That's the King of Shrubs at a glance — can the Queen be far behind?

Teeth: Dollars and Sense

Recession is a nasty word whether we are talking about our income or our teeth.

Did you know that dentists see recession on a daily basis? It's the kind that causes your gums to recede and expose the roots of your teeth, causing pain in your mouth and eventually in your wallet.

As with any recession the sooner it is recognized and treated the more likely that invasive and expensive treatment can be averted.

For example, did you know that tooth decay is not always painful right away? By the time you notice a small brown spot on the surface of a tooth, the bacteria causing decay may already have eaten its way through the hard outer shell of enamel and into the softer dentin that surrounds the pulp chamber.

At this stage the tooth may be hot or cold sensitive. This softer inner layer protects the nerve but once the decay reaches the pulp chamber the tooth will be very painful because bacteria is attacking the nerve.

If ignored, the tooth will die and the pain may subside, however, untreated cavities can lead to a severe dental ab-

cess due to bacteria entering the pulp chamber and working its way to the root tip, where it infects the surrounding bone. The tooth now needs a root canal and a crown to restore it, or an extraction to remove it.

So skipping your check-up and hygiene appointment may seem to be saving you money at the moment but in the long run it could be a very expensive decision.

Be pro-active in handling this recession, don't wait for a pain in your mouth to prompt a visit to your dentist.

Modern dentistry has all the tools needed to identify decay at an early stage. A regular dental check-up and professional cleaning is money well spent — potentially saving you hundreds of dollars — by identifying small problems and treating them before they can progress to the point of pain and expense.



Early prevention of dental problems is always our first choice. If you would like to know more about preventive options available to you please talk to our friendly dentists and staff.

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HARBOUR GALLERY SPRING LINE UP

April 3 to April 13: "MIXED AND MATCHED"

ARTISTS: Patricia Walsh, Eileen Berczik, Louise Lenko and Nefri Lyske.

Artist Reception: April 4, 1 pm to 3 pm. Exhibiting oil, watercolour and calligraphy.

April 17 to April 29: "EARTH, WATER & FIRED"

ARTISTS: June Malaka and Atty Gell.

Artist Reception: April 18, 2 pm to 5 pm. Exhibit of paintings, ceramics, stained glass and mosaics.

May 1 to May 14: "ELEMENTS"

ARTISTS: Shelly Stunell and Wendy Simmonds.

Artist Reception: May 9, 1 pm to 3 pm. Exhibit of paintings using various mediums.

May 15 thru September: "SUMMER SHOW OF HARBOUR GALLERY MEMBERSHIP"

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PENDER HARBOUR CULTURAL CENTRE

HOURS: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

OBITUARY

Kari-Ann Farrell

JUNE 7, 1968 - FEBRUARY 21, 2009

Kari-Ann Farrell was born in Powell River on June 7, 1968 and died suddenly of pneumonia on Feb. 21.

She is survived by her two daughters Lilian, 17, and Georgina, 7, life partner Tom Heins, father Keray, mother Pat, stepmom Sue Marlatt,

sister Lee, brother Dave, stepbrother Yoland, stepchildren Starr and Mark and all her nieces and nephews, aunts, uncles and many friends.

She will be sadly missed.

Harold Clay

OCTOBER 8, 1928 - MARCH 18, 2009

It is with great sadness the Clay family announces the passing of Harold Clay, a brother, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, friend and long-time resident of Pender Harbour.

Harold was predeceased in 2007 by his wife, Joyce, and son-in-law, Randy.

He is survived by his brother, Gordon, and sisters Kay and Norma, his children, Cheryl (Garry), Brett (Donna), Mark (Shelly), Warne, Donna and Leanne (Dean), 14 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Harold was a proud member of the Pender Harbour Power Squadron and a founding member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Volunteer Fire Department.

A celebration of his life was held at the Royal Canadian Legion in Madeira Park on Saturday, March 28.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Pender Harbour Health Centre or



the Canadian Diabetes Society would be appreciated.

The family wishes to thank the many women in his life who provided care to him.

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The 'proper' way to drive a golf cart

By Jan Watson



Mother Nature plays havoc again! Just when the golf gets started again we seem to get another covering of the

white stuff!

Everyone is getting frustrated. In fact, Kirk Mackie, Glen Higgins and another couple of friends teed off in a heavy snow shower a week ago. Fortunately it didn't last very long.

I think they were having withdrawal symptoms from lack of golf.

MEN'S CLUB

The men were lucky once again and enjoyed sunshine for their first day of the season on March 17.

Playing regular golf the Low Gross winner was Lorne Campbell with 77. Kp on #3 Bill Jack and on #6 was Lorne Campbell.

The Pender Harbour team of Merv & Roberta Oleksyn, Don Matheson & Blake Priebe won the mixed team section of the 4th Annual Frozen Goose Scramble at Roberts Creek on March 9 with a 62.

They just missed out on the overall win by one stroke.

SIMPLE RULES FOR SENSIBLE AND SAFE OPERATION OF GOLF CARS:

- Golf cars should only be operated from the driver's side.
- Golf cars should not be operated by children.
- Never carry more than two occupants or allow riders on the back of the car.
- Be sure your passenger is fully seated and check for obstructions before moving.
- Keep your entire body – particularly your feet – inside the car when moving.
- Drive slowly through turns and drive straight and slowly up and down slopes.
- Set the brake when coming to a complete stop.
- Use extra care when operating a golf car in reverse, or on hills, wet turf, loose surfaces or rough terrain.

FROM THE 19TH HOLE...

A golf match is a test of your skill against your opponents' luck.



For the sake of your golf course, remember that golf car traffic can cause damage to the golf course that is both unsightly and expensive to repair.

Tire ruts in soft, wet areas can take weeks to heal.

Compaction caused by heavy traffic can ruin the playing surface.

As a result, most courses have a standard golf car policy and sometimes employ temporary restrictions due to weather, construction or other factors.

- Never drive onto a green, collar, tee or any marked hazard.
- Never drive into any area that has been recently seeded.
- Avoid abrupt stops and sharp turns that cause skidding.
- Spread out wear-and-tear by avoiding compacted areas.
- Watch for signs or other markers that direct traffic.
- Avoid driving over sprinkler heads and yardage markers.
- Don't drive cars into out-of-play areas that may be environmentally sensitive.



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- **Kid's bike** - Found near P. H. Legion. Dual suspension. Call 883-2563.

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HARBOUR SEALS



Free! Approvals or disapprovals! **Please keep them short.**
Send to: editor@harbourspiel.com.

Include your full name and a telephone number for confirmation.

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **everyone who helped** make Diana's celebration of life as nice as it was. Special thanks to **Misty, Joanne and April** for everything they did and said. Thank you to all of Diana's other friends and family, your generosity and kindness helped me through a difficult time. Thanks also to the **Lions' Club** for donating their hall for Diana's last party, it was standing room only — a tribute to how many people loved Diana.

Ron Fenn

A Harbour Seal of Approval to Team Dragontini members **Becky Udy and Darleen Kerfoot** for all their efforts in organizing the successful Pender Harbour Paddling Society Open House on March 1.

P. H. Paddling Society members

A Seal of Approval and a big thank you to **all the bakers** who brought in contributions to the Community Club Bake Sale in March.
Muriel Cameron

A Seal of Approval to **Darcy Perry and Darren Reid** for stepping it up a notch at the Annual Firemen's Appreciation Dinner this year. The games and prizes were awesome!
Charlene Cote

A soccer field full of seals to the **Breakers: Andrew H., Cypher C., Grace M., Halle B., James M., Jesse V., Jordan K., Jordan W., Madeline R., Marybeth W., Ryan M. and Thomas K.** Thanks for a great year.
Rod & Kelly Kammerle

The Pender Harbour Lions would like to send out a special thanks to **Jeff and Leah Peifer** of the Pender Harbour Resort for their generous donation of a pop cooler for our clubhouse.

Pender Harbour Lions' Club

Our local visitors information centre desperately needs volunteers to operate the centre for the late spring and summer seasons.

All businesses are encouraged to assist to ensure that the Pender Harbour and Egmont areas are well represented to the visiting public. Call Rick Harmer at 883-3678 to offer assistance.



Ron and Wendy Phillips family collection photo

Canoe Pass bridge construction, March 20, 1955.

The bridge over Canoe Pass opened Francis Peninsula (or Beaver Island if the tide was in) to development. Previously most of the development occurred around the waterfront.

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From Brittain to Egmont: The travels of the Egmont Community



Ann Cook photo

Egmont Community Hall on May Day 1961. The hall was originally a logging camp recreation hall at Brittain River before being towed to Egmont in 1952.

By Beverly Saunders

Since 1952 the Egmont Community Hall has been an important part of the Egmont community.

Now, that significance is reflected in its recent designation as the first building on the coast to be listed on the Sunshine Coast Regional District's Community Heritage Register.

In the Statement of Significance

for the Heritage Register, the hall is recognized as a prime example of the type of forestry camp buildings that were once common along the BC coast dating from the first half of the 20th century.

The building is built of old growth fir and cedar and has tongue and groove fir plank flooring and a cedar plank ceiling. The outside shingles are hand-cut, fine grain cedar.

The hall has been the main social gathering place in Egmont since the early 1950s.

It has seen weddings, dances, club and public meetings, Easter egg hunts, Christmas dinners, teas, memorial services, children's programs, church services and community school classes.

It is the headquarters for Egmont Day and houses the Egmont Thrift Store.

The Egmont Community Hall was originally the recreation hall for the Brittain River logging camp of BC Forest Products. It was built in the mid-1940s and was moved to Egmont in 1952.

The story goes that John West, knowing that the camp was being dismantled, stopped by on a fishing trip up Jervis Inlet with Jim Leighton.

Something to Squirrel away?

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Hall

He made a deal with the caretaker to purchase the building for the Egmont Club for one dollar.

The club already had some property in Egmont for a community hall that was donated by the co-op.

The community gathered together to clear and level the building site.

The transportation of the building is quite a story in itself.

John Bosch and Dave McNutt loaned two wrapped floats (logs wrapped together with cable) to transport the building.

West and Jack Clark used their boats to tow the two floats back to Secret Bay in Egmont.

The 30 foot by 80 foot building was cut in half by the logging camp crew and was waiting on the shore to be loaded on to the floats at high tide.

Once they made it back to

Egmont, the building was offloaded at high tide.

Frank and Cyril Disney were waiting with their D7 Caterpillar and a crew of local men to pull the building up the hillside on skids.

Once the building reached the permanent site where it sits today, the two halves were reattached. You can still see the line of trim in the hall today. The hall was jacked up and log posts were set under it for the foundation.

"The children were not allowed to get too near the work site, but the older boys helped. The women of the community organized a picnic lunch," Heather (West) Smith recalls.

"I can still remember everyone talking about seeing the hall sitting on the freshly cleared land and all the workers admiring it. It had a huge

impact on the whole community and was truly an exciting addition which we were all proud of."

The relocation and building of the foundation was all accomplished before there was a road to Egmont, therefore cement trucks were unavailable.

The Egmont Community Club is currently raising funds to put in a proper cement foundation.

They hope to be ready to start on this project this year or by early 2010.

Donations can be made to the ECC Foundation Fund through the Pender Harbour Community Improvement Foundation.

Income tax receipts will be issued on request.

For more information call (604) 740-6324 or email ECC@xplornet.com.

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Plenty of services for seniors coming up in April

Compiled by P. H. Health Centre Staff

ELDER COLLEGE

Are you concerned about high blood pressure and hypertension?

Check out Matters of the Heart. It's a fun, interactive, hands-on program to help you control your blood pressure.

This interactive program provides useful tips and simple goal setting to improve your well-being through diet and exercise.

Pender Harbour Health Centre is teaming up with a Vancouver Coastal Health chronic disease prevention co-ordinator, a registered dietitian; a chronic disease self-management leader; two fitness instructors; a pharmacist and a diabetes educator/nurse to present this fun-filled program.

This course is ideally suited for anyone in the 55-plus crowd.

It runs for three Tuesdays – April 7, 14, and 21 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Pender Harbour Health Centre in Madeira Park.

The cost is just \$30. Register through Elder College at (604) 885-9310.

POPPY FUND

Thanks to the Pender Harbour Legion Poppy Fund, we have purchased a magnifying light for those hard to find splinters and sutures. (See photo.)

LOAN CUPBOARD

The Health Centre has an extensive loan cupboard thanks to generous donors and most recently the Pender Harbour Lions' Club.

They have donated \$500 which has already been put to good use.

The Health Centre was able to purchase some additional equipment,



photo submitted

Nurses Nancy MacKay and Linda Szabados and Pender Harbour Legion Poppy fund chairperson, Margaret Deacon, admire the recently donated magnifying light. It was provided from funds raised by the Legion poppy fund and will help in locating hard to find splinters and sutures.

primarily for those having hip and knee replacements.

Marina Pharmacy has kindly added some complimentary shoe horns and long sponges for those hard to reach places.

You should check with the Health Centre before you have surgery to make sure you have all the equipment you need for your recovery.

Remember that a phone call to the Home Care Nurses will arrange a follow-up home visit or telephone call to monitor your recovery.

SENIORS' FORUMS

Mark your calendars with the following dates for informative forums on topics of interest to seniors.

There is no charge for these lectures and lunch is available for only \$5. Forums are held at the Pender Harbour School of Music on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

SENIORS' FORUMS

Emergency Preparedness:

April 2, 2009
with Bill Elsner, SCRD

Seniors' Housing on the Coast:

April 16, 2009
with Sue Jackel

Wills and Estates:

April 23, 2009
with lawyer Alison Sawyer

Financial Advice:

April 30, 2009
with Louis Legal

P. H. School of Music

10:30 a.m. - noon

BIRTHDAYS

- April 1 ~ **May King.**
 April 2 ~ **Marty Lowe, Walter Higgins, Elizabeth Buhlert and Desiree Leech.**
 April 3 ~ **Jamison Warner and Sandi Whelan**
 April 4 ~ **Frank Roosen Jr., Doreen Lee and Mike Legge.**
 April 5 ~ **Doug Silvey and Breanna Clay.**
 April 6 ~ **Mike Bathgate and Ursula Dornbierer.**
 April 8 ~ **Andrea Clerx and Gloria Fritz.**
 April 10 ~ **April Charlton.**
 April 11 ~ **Joe Adams.**
 April 12 ~ **Matthew Phillips and Tilley Dougan.**
 April 13 ~ **Bonnie Lindsay, Geoff Warner, Billy Petraschuk and Don Priest.**
 April 14 ~ **Dan Leech and Ann Landry.**
 April 15 ~ **Teresa Sladey and Cathy Collins.**
 April 17 ~ **Sheila McCann and Carly Campbell.**
 April 18 ~ **Russ Foster, Talon Mclean, Howard White, David Brimacomb, Karen Zayshley and Ron Calvert.**
 April 19 ~ **John Field.**
 April 20 ~ **Sue Kammerle and Katie Tenbroek.**
 April 22 ~ **Dan Choquette and Lorrie Babcock.**
 April 23 ~ **Kathy Morant, Sue Richardson, Heidi Vaughan and Jordan Kammerle.**
 April 24 ~ **Len Silvey and Alex Dore.**
 April 25 ~ **Samantha Stewart and Dietta Edwardson.**
 April 26 ~ **Teyjah Xaveress and Blake Campbell.**
 April 28 ~ **Jeanette Penson.**
 April 29 ~ **Ruth Langton.**
 April 30 ~ **Kasey & Kelly Smith, Marie Reid, Hazel Higgins. "Prawntrap Patty" Jackson, Bill Sutherland and Jeff Wilbee.**

APRIL ASTROLOGY

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 20)

The sign of the ram gives Arians loyalty, generosity, high energy and bony protrusions on their forehead. They love adventure and often fiercely defend the underdog.

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Authorized by Anthony Cooke, financial agent, 604-886-5376

OF APRIL

APRIL FOOL'S HOAX

ALABAMA CHANGES THE VALUE OF PI

The April 1998 issue of the *New Mexicans for Science and Reason* newsletter contained an article claiming that the Alabama state legislature had voted to change the value of the mathematical constant pi from 3.14159 to the 'Biblical value' of 3.0.

Soon the article made its way onto the internet, and then it rapidly spread around the world, forwarded by email. It only became apparent how far the article had spread when the Alabama legislature began receiving hundreds of calls from people protesting the legislation.

The original article, which was intended as a parody of legislative attempts to circumscribe the teaching of evolution, was written by physicist Mark Boslough.

 π

~ museumofhoaxes.com

APRIL WEATHER

TEMPERATURES, MERRY ISLAND

Our average daily high temperature in April is 11.8 C and our average daily low is 6.2 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 9 C. The highest April temperature recorded is 20.7 C (April 27, 1972); the lowest is -1.1 C (April 3, 1975).

PRECIPITATION, MERRY ISLAND

April has an average of 190.8 hours of bright sunshine and 13 days with measurable rainfall. April averages a total monthly rainfall of 60.4 mm and a total monthly snowfall of 0.3 cm. The highest April daily rainfall on record is 31.8 mm (April 27, 1962); the highest April daily snowfall on record is 5.1 cm (April 3, 1975).

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This fun and social series will explore how to maintain a healthy computer while exploring information resources and learning more about your own special interests on the internet. Computer novices should have basic keyboard and mouse skills.

Registration Deadlines: One week prior to start of program. Please register early as space is limited and, sorry, we are unable to provide refunds upon cancellation, although you may have someone else fill your spot.

TIMES: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., for Seniors.
7 p.m. - 9 p.m., for adults, teens and Essential Skills Program participants.
Fee: \$10 per session

INTRODUCTION TO FOLLOWING YOUR PASSIONS

Date: Wednesday, April 8

Instructor: Karen Dyck

Fee: No Charge

Registration Deadline: April 7 at noon

MAINTAINING A HEALTHY COMPUTER

Date: Wednesday, April 22

Instructor: Louise Todhunter

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS OUT THERE?

Date: Wednesday, April 29

Instructor: Karen Dyck

INFORMATION & LIBRARY RESOURCES ON THE INTERNET

Date: Wednesday, May 6

Instructor: Pat Jobb

B.O.A.T. PLEASURE CRAFT OPERATOR CERTIFICATE TESTING

Egmont

Date: Saturday, April 18

Time: 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Location: Backeddy Marina

Pender Harbour

Date: Monday, April 13

Time: 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: Pender Harbour Marina, 4786 Sinclair Bay Rd., Garden Bay

Fee: \$26. Study Guides cost \$12 and are available at the Backeddy or at the Community School Office.
Registration Deadline: April 8

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• Christ the Redeemer Church	883-1371
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• Community Club, Pender Harbour	741-5840
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• Egmont Volunteer Fire Department.....	883-0012
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• Lions Club, Egmont.....	883-9463
• Lions Club, Pender Harbour (1st & 3rd Tues.).....	883-1361
• P. H. Music Society.....	883-2689
• P. H. Paddling Society	883-3678
• Pender Harbour Choir (7:30 pm Tues).....	883-9273
• Piecemakers (quilters, 1st & 3rd Wed. 9:30 a.m.).....	883-3662
• Power & Sail Squad (2nd Wed. Legion).....	883-0444
• Red Balloon Parent & Tot drop-in.....	885-5881
• Reading Centre Society	883-2983
• Rotary Club (noon Fri. Garden Bay Pub)	883-1350
• Royal Cdn Legion 112.....	883-2235
• Skookumchuck Heritage Society.....	883-9994
• St. Andrew's Anglican Church	883-9927
• St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary (2nd Wed. @ 1 p.m.).....	883-2563
• Seniors' Housing Society (3rd Thur.).....	883-9883
• Serendipity Preschool	883-2316
• Suncoast Players	883-9277
• Sunshine Coast Community Based Victim Services....	885-0322
• Volunteer Fire Dept (Wed. evening).....	883-9270
• Wildlife Society (3rd Tues. PHSS).....	883-9853
• Women's Cancer Support	883-9708
• Women's Connection (2nd & 4th Tue.)	883-9313
• Women's Outreach Services.....	741-5246

~ ORGANIZATIONS ~

PENDER HARBOUR MAY DAY COMMITTEE

The Pender Harbour May Day committee is still looking for volunteers. Please call Heather at (604)740-1859 if you can spare some time. To register for the parade or as a vendor, please call Carole at (604)883-2272 or pickup forms from the Copper Sky Cafe at (604) 883-0098

Attack of Danger Bay is looking for volunteers to run security. The camp at the Lions' Park will be restricted to racers and guests through pre-registration. Volunteers are needed to man the gates especially during the daylight hours of the May long weekend. To volunteer please call Steve at (604)741-4153

EGMONT HERITAGE CENTRE

The Egmont Heritage Centre opens for the weekends starting March 6. Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission by donation. Call 883-9994 for more information.

LOCAL FOOD FORUM ON FOOD SECURITY

Please join the Pender Harbour Community in a Local Food Forum on Sunday, April 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the P. H. School of Music (12952 Madeira Park Road). The forum features author Robin Wheeler, *Food Security for the Faint of Heart* and author Carol Rubin, *How to Get Your Lawn Off Grass*.

The purpose of the forum is to identify local food issues and to suggest ways we can ensure a constant supply of safe, affordable, and nutritious food for all. It is also a chance to express any concerns about food and to learn creative ways to make your home "food secure." There will be a potluck lunch at 12:30 p.m. so please bring a dish to share. The morning will consist of speakers and panelists and after lunch there will be break-out groups to strategize on how to move forward on food security issues in the Pender region. To find out more please contact Nadi at (604) 741-9859 or email her at nadi@onestraw.ca

LOCATED AT THE PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL:
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Friday, Saturday & Sunday

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Pender Harbour's rite of spring: April Tools Challenge, April 25

Submitted

Buzzing handsaws and the whine of cordless screw guns will again fill the air in Madeira Park's Millennium Park on April 25, 2009 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. as teams of builders conspire to produce the fastest and most seaworthy craft possible from the pile of materials they have been given.

The problem is that they will not learn what they have to work with until one hour before the beginning of construction and this year's materials list is definitely different from any used before.

Last year, teams were surprised to be given a paddlewheel to power their boats and had to give hard consideration to how to steer something that travels well in a straight line around a circular course.

Solutions varied, but the thrashing paddles churning toward the finish line were something to behold.

Along with the adulation of the crowd, the fastest three teams will receive sizable cash prizes.

In addition, the Broken Paddle Trophy will be presented to the team that perseveres in the face of adversity and the Spiffy Skiffy Trophy will go to the group building the boat chosen by the crowd as the finest looking.

But the day is not only about building interesting boats from questionable materials.



Sometimes the designs don't work — Craig Schroeder struggled in vain to get his craft to the dock before it sank at last year's April Tools Wooden Boat Challenge.

High school students who have built boats after school will race for the coveted youth trophy followed by a relaxed rules fun race for bags of goodies.

There will be free mini-boat-building and other activities for the kids and a fabulous barbeque by the Pender Harbour Rotary Club for everyone.

Boatbuilding displays and free paddling in the Harbour will round out the day.

The entry fee is still only \$160 per team of up to four or \$140 for ear-

lybirds signing up before April 1.

Call Richard or Jackie at (604) 883-0539 or e-mail jackieordroneau@gmail.com to enter your team or if you would like to be part of the planning or staging of this great family-oriented springtime event.

To see just what April Tools has wrought in past years, go to www.apriltools.ca and click on the Photo Gallery.

As always, April Tools is presented by the Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society.

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Meeting the beast

By Jim Cosgrove and Neil McDaniel
(Excerpted from *Supersuckers: The Giant Pacific Octopus*, Harbour Publishing)

Biologist and author Jim Cosgrove had an unanticipated encounter with a giant Pacific octopus while working at the Undersea Gardens, then located in Oak Bay, near Victoria.

The Pacific Undersea Gardens is a floating aquarium where guests descend stairs into a submerged theatre with viewing windows about 3.5 m (11 ft) below sea level.

People sit on bleachers to watch scheduled shows. Jim recalls:

“As a display diver it was my job to bring various animals up close to the windows while a guide described them to the spectators.

“The culmination of the 20-minute show was for me to bring out an octopus, which never failed to thrill the crowd.

“There were a number of fibre-glass ‘rocks’ bolted to the bottom. These rocks looked real to the audience, but they were actually hollow at the back.

“They were a good place for an octopus to hide and it was relatively easy to get an octopus out for the show.

“One day as I entered the water, I

**P. H. Lions Annual
Pancake breakfast
and Easter Egg Hunt**

sponsored by
LaFarge Construction Materials

**Sunday the 12th of April
9:00 am to 1:00 pm**

Easter egg hunt starts at 12:00

P. H. Lions' Hall

~ PLEASE NO DOGS ~



Neil McDaniel photo

A giant Pacific octopus gathers up its arms just before pumping a powerful jet of water from its funnel to start swimming. The double row of suckers along each arm numbers about 200, depending on the age of the animal. Males have fewer because there are no suckers on the end of the hectocotyized arm.

checked a den immediately under the entry ladder and saw that there were not one but two octopuses inside.

“I thought that was very unusual, but I didn’t have time to look any further and carried on with the show. Then came time for the octopus to star and off I went.

“I started rousting the octopus out of the den and could see that the second octopus was starting to move as well.

“Darn, I thought, I’m going to have two of them out at the same time, which will spoil the show since at least half the people will be watching the one wandering around.

“At that point I noticed that the arms slithering by my mask were getting larger and larger with the biggest suckers I had ever seen.

“Then I realized that this was, in fact, not two octopuses but just one monster.

“By this time I was seized by the octopus, and all I could do was keep

both hands on my regulator while the octopus dragged me around like a sack of potatoes.

“At one point I was able to see that the octopus could reach from the display windows to the outside screen, which was a distance of 6.7 metres (22 feet), so this octopus had a radial span of just over this distance.

“After a short time — it seemed like several lifetimes to me — the octopus let me go and I beat a hasty retreat to the dive ladder.

“I emerged to hoots of laughter from the other divers who had known that the beast was in there but deliberately neglected to tell me.

“No one ever bothered that animal again, but it did not live more than a few weeks. When it died, we took it over to the Oak Bay Marina, where it was put on the scales.

“Its wet weight was 71 kg (156 lb), and that remains the largest octopus I have ever had personal contact with.”

A spring wake up call to 'wiggle your toes'



By Cheyenne
Lightbourn

On Friday the 13th, the Friday before spring break, Pender Harbour Secondary students had the opportunity to hear a young motivational speaker.

Kevin Brooks was put in a wheelchair at a young age — the result of a night of drinking and a familiar drive home.

Brooks delivers his inspirational story from his wheelchair and teaching kids all over the province about the value of the life — and protecting it.

He talks about his story and others from his life that show what happened to him could happen to anyone and even though you may feel confident there is always room for a little precaution.

Most kids were blown away by his presentation. They related to his story on a frighteningly personal level and, if he didn't remind them of themselves, they were perhaps reminded of their older brothers and sisters.

While Kevin spoke of his accident, beside him sat an empty chair.

The chair, he said, represented Brendan, the passenger and friend, who died in the same accident that crippled Kevin. Brendan was there in spirit and this was his story too.

Looking around the gymnasium during the presentation it was easy to see that Kevin's story was making an impact.

Tears were falling silently while Kevin's voice resounded in the background.

He reminded everyone that even though we think we know the roads,

they can still be dangerous and this spring break was an opportunity to exercise caution and to remember how valuable life really is.

He offered the students this piece of advice: any time you are about to do anything dangerous or reckless, wiggle your toes and imagine not being able to do something as simple as that.

His intention is to change people's lives by showing them "how quickly life can change with just one decision."

Kevin's presentation ended with a slideshow of pictures leading up to his accident and just after.

Before he was confined to his wheelchair Kevin skateboarded, snowboarded and loved to get out and do fun stuff that a lot of people who don't need a chair to get around take for granted.

There were pictures of him doing tricks on his skateboard and going off insane jumps on his snowboard.

He spoke of missing surfing and snowboarding and skating and of the frustration with being unable to do those things.

The kids at Pender are known for their longboarding, and many of them have the same passion for the things that Kevin did before he was injured.

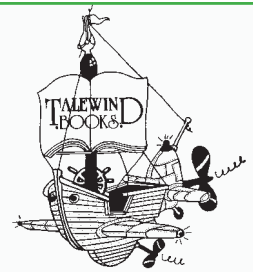
Kevin's presentation came at the perfect time — just before a week when excitement is high and kids are

known to get a little rowdy.

But the kids at Pender took pieces of Kevin's powerful story away with them this Spring Break.

They were going to wiggle their toes and think twice.

Check out Kevin's awesome website at www.kevinbrooks.ca. You'll find his contact information, a regularly updated blog, lots of pictures of him and his buddies — before and after the accident — and more about him and his inspirational story.



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Pender Harbour Secondary School: Term 2 honour roll

GRADE 7

Matteo Alps Mocellin, Alex Christian, Devon Dunsford, Autumn La France, Maria Lamarche, Zach Mansbridge-Fafard, Emily Reid, Matthew Silvey, Mackenzie Stewart, Solveig van Wersch, Rick Wagner, Matthew Watts.

GRADE 8

Lena Aschenbroich, Brandon Ewen, Carly Fielding, Dakota Fox, Charlotte Gray, Arhea Howitt, Ryleigh Lightbourn, Paige Nattall, Alannah Nichols, William Reid, Max Shoemaker, Savannah Sosa, Shaylen Sosa. Honourable Mention: Heather Howery.

GRADE 9

Khoya Craig, Sarah Dybwad, Joel Field, Raine Gauthier, Angela Goodwin, Sam Langfield, Elizabeth Rowlands, Kari Scott, Allison Scoular, Madison Williams-Rice.

GRADE 10

Chloe Christie, Mike Chrystall, Shelby Foley, Cyrus Foster, Natasha Jerema, Mitchell Jones, Rebecca Kelly, Taylor McKay, Morgan McLellan, Ryleigh Milligan, Stephanie Nichols, Aurora Noble, Travis Ramsey-Wall, Brittany Sheppard, Janine Snell, Rowan van Wersch, Gavin Wicks, Mitchell Williams-Rice.

GRADE 11

Eric Bakewell, Alexa Dornbierer, Courtney Herdman, Cheyenne Lightbourn, Kelsey Nattall, Lauren Paton, Stephanie Phillips, Dion Pickles-Teller, Nicole Polacek, Cooper Rancier, Kelly Roach, Alana Smith, Katie Woods. Honourable Mention: Katie Edwardson, Trevor Thorpe.

GRADE 12

Rowen Christie, Kate Dennis, Ricardo Estevao, Cody Foley, Kyle Girroir, Elizabeth Haines, Quinn McLellan, Amber Mottishaw, Kassi Ormson, Michelle Polacek, Amy Porth, Jenna Scott. Honourable Mention: Michele Cole.

PENDER HARBOUR ABBNEYFIELD HOUSE



Area A Seniors Housing would like to express its gratitude to retiring board members Jackie Ordroneau and Linda Curtiss, who have done so much to help us achieve our goal of providing seniors' housing for Pender Harbour.

We are also pleased to welcome two new board members, Patti Gaudet and Rick MacDonald. We know they will bring lots of new ideas to our ongoing work.

Our Valentine's Day Dinner/Dance was a great success! Our shortfall to qualify for the \$100,000 grant from the BC Real estate Foundation is now down to \$147,000. Meat draws on Friday nights at the Garden Bay Pub are going strong. Join us and bring your friends!

~ The Area A Seniors' Housing Society AGM will be held June 17. ~
Put it in your calendar now.



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Personal revenge should have no place in criminal courts



By Shane McCune

It is almost a month since a Manitoba judge pronounced Vince Li not criminally responsible for the gruesome killing

of Tim McLean on a Greyhound bus last summer.

Now that the most lurid accounts have found their way to the recycling bin, there might be some value in examining the justice system's handling of this case and public reaction to it.

First the good news.

1. All involved in the Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench hearing did what they were supposed to do. Prosecution and defence brought in psychiatrists who agreed that Li was obviously a schizophrenic in the grip of a psychotic episode. The lawyers and the judge agreed that Li was at that moment incapable of forming the intent to commit a crime.

2. Most news media exercised restraint in their coverage. If you want the sickening details, you can rummage through the digital dumpsters of the internet. But most reporters stopped short of that. By and large, the columnists and commentators also did a commendable job of explaining the reasoning behind a verdict of not criminally responsible.

3. Canadians in general showed common sense and humanity. They were horrified by the original reports and expressed grief and sympathy for McLean's family, but eventually accepted the inescapable truth that Li was out of his mind.

(There were exceptions, of course: The cynical tabloid columnists and radio blowhards who never miss a chance to stir up hatred, and the

anonymous trolls who clutter online comment areas and chat rooms.)

But this case also underlines failings by the courts, the media, schools and the public in general.

Let's start with the media. Most gave the victim's parents, Carol deDelley and Tim McLean Sr., a chance to vent their anger and anguish. That is standard practice, but it's more ritual than reportage—unless the grieving survivor expresses forgiveness or mercy, which would be newsworthy.

A trickier matter was deDelley's misguided call for a so-called "Tim's law" that would impose criminal penalties on the insane. It had to be reported, but the more discreet news organizations, such as the Globe & Mail, placed it well down in the story and did not linger on it.

McLean's parents, in their grief and anger, are unwilling or unable to relinquish the urge to punish a demented Vince Li. But grief and anger do not qualify anyone to draft laws.

Which brings us to the courts. One reporter invited the parents to speak their piece outside the court because they did not have a chance to give victim impact statements inside.

The victim impact statement is a recent gimmick, imported from the U.S. in the 1980s.

Such statements are delivered after the defendant is convicted and before the judge passes sentence. It's not clear how much they affect sentencing, but they have clearly given many people the idea that a criminal trial pits perpetrator against victim.

It's the wrong idea. If someone has done you wrong, you can sue in civil court. But in criminal court, as former B.C. Supreme Court Justice John Bouck put it, "the guiding prin-

ciple . . . is that any criminal offence is not a wrong committed against the person who is harmed, rather it is a wrong against the community as a whole."

And what if a murder victim was a homeless man with no family to mourn him in court? Does that make his killing less criminal than others?

Widespread ignorance of how courts (and governments) work must be blamed in part on our school system. Does anyone take civics classes anymore? How can a democracy survive if its citizens aren't versed in the basic machinery of democracy?

But it's probably too late for that, unless there is some way of explaining the justice system via text messaging. People haven't just lost the habit of reading; they've lost the ability.

According to ABC Canada, 42 per cent of adult Canadians have "low literacy." Most can read to some degree, but cannot understand the directions on a medicine bottle or a short newspaper article.

But they can register to vote, and voters' lists are jury pools. Imagine yourself wrongly accused of a serious crime. How would you feel knowing that four or five of the jurors deciding your fate might not be able to get through the Britney Spears section of the Province, let alone written reports by medical witnesses?

Now imagine the same folks listening spellbound as the wife of the deceased weeps on the witness stand, describing how her children keep asking when daddy is coming home.

Many lawyers feel that jury duty is already beyond the abilities of the average citizen. It will be a sad day for democracy when the only fair trial is one by judge alone.

ADB 8: Local world champ takes on 2008 Danger Bay champ



By Bricin Lyons

Attack of Danger Bay Eight.

Thats right folks, after eight years of Attack of Danger Bay in Pender Harbour we have inspired a World Champion.

You might have heard of this man, his name is Scott "Scoot" Smith.

The Pender Harbour High graduate is now the world champion of downhill skateboarding.

This Pender Harbour world champion has raced all over the world representing us in Brazil, Puerto Rico, England, Australia, Germany and France, just to name a few.

He is all over the television news, floods the internet, newspapers and radio stations world wide.

Smith speaks at schools too — this Pender Harbour world champion is top notch.

The whole world is coming back to Pender Harbour to try to take a

piece of the world champ on his home course — that and for the chance to win the biggest cash prize for downhill skateboarding in the world at the biggest race on the planet.

If we want to see a Pender Harbour Danger Bay champion it won't be easy. While we can boast that we have a world champion, the world's best will be back this year.

Each of the past seven Attack of Danger Bay champions has said they will be at the 2009 race and they want to win now more than ever.

Last year's Attack of Danger Bay champ proves to be the most impressive champ yet.

Kevin "K-Rimes" Riemer, another speedboarder with ties to the Sunshine Coast — he has a cottage on Sakinaw Lake — defeated almost 200 racers last year in Pender Harbour. No racer has ever won two Danger Bays in a row but if anyone can do it, Kevin Riemer can.

Good luck to all the racers this year but great luck to Pender Harbour's Team Green: Mike Roosen, Sandman Charlton, Raggie English, world champion Scoot Smith and yours truly.

On a side note, I have lost 70 pounds and will race my first Danger Bay in 4 years.

I hope not to break another wrist or dislocate another shoulder in the infamous Carnage Corner.

IMPORTANT NOTE

No parking is permitted near the race site for safety reasons.

Please park in Madeira Park. There will be free race day shuttle buses to the race starting at 8 a.m. Sunday on May 17 leaving from the Oak Tree Market. (Huge thanks to



He's the first downhill skateboarder to win the World Cup Series and the World Championship in the same year but he still hasn't won at home. Scott Smith at 2008 Attack of Danger Bay.

Larry and Andy Curtiss.)

We are also looking for Pender Harbour hosts/security for the Lions' Park Camp. Please contact costlongboarding@shaw.ca if you might be able to help out.

Thanks to the wonderful residents on the race track and all our hard working volunteers.

Lastly, a message to Pender Harbour businesses: Hire extra staff, stock up extra food and drinks and plan to stay open later because Attack of Danger Bay brings over 350 hungry racers and guests.



RR-1, S-5, C-71
Madeira Park BC, V0N 2H0



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SPORTS

Antilla heats up Ice in 2008/2009 season

Beaver Islander Joe Antilla has been on fire this season with his Western Hockey League team the Kootenay Ice.

Joining the team at age 16, Antilla was one of the youngest players on the team last year, scoring three points with limited ice time.

Antilla took off this year scoring 28 points (six goals, 22 assists) with a plus/minus average of +2 in the regular season.

The Cranbrook-based Kootenay Ice finished 10th overall in the WHL this season and made the playoffs for the 11th consecutive year.

The Kootenay Ice lost four straight games to the Brandon Wheat Kings in a best-of-seven series.

Antilla tallied one assist in the playoffs with a plus/minus of -3.



Kootenay Ice photo

Joey Antilla scored 28 points in 69 games as a forward with Cranbrook's Kootenay Ice this past season.

PHOTOJOURNAL



photo submitted

Arhea Howitt and Paige Nattall show off gold medals from their soccer team's recent victory at the Cloverdale Cup in Surrey. Howitt and Nattall play for the Sunshine Coast United, a U14 rep team playing in the BC Coastal Girls League. Formerly called the District Five League, it's made up of teams from throughout the Lower Mainland.

April 2009

SUPER suckers

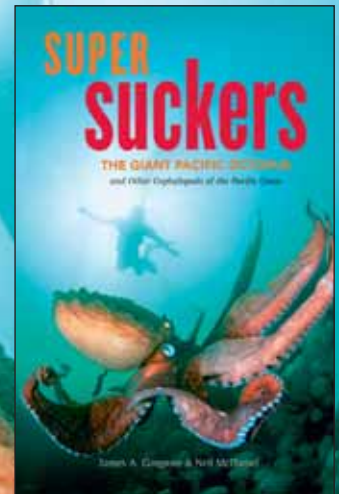
THE GIANT PACIFIC OCTOPUS

and Other Cephalopods of the Pacific Coast

James A. Cosgrove & Neil McDaniel

“Consider the octopus. Is there a more bizarre-looking, homely animal in the sea? A baggy, sac-like body surmounted by a pair of bulging, slitted eyes and fleshy horns. Eight snake-like arms studded with hundreds of grasping suction cups. A stubby funnel projecting from its body like a leftover piece of fire hose.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Calendar listings are provided free of charge by the Harbour Spiel. Send information to editor@harbourspiel.com by the 15th of the month.

APRIL

- Fri. April 3.....P. H. Food Bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 12-12:30 p.m.
 Fri. April 3.....Serendipity Preschool hosts "Quiz Night" - P. H. Legion Hall, 8 p.m.
 Sun. April 5.....Local Food Forum - P. H. School of Music, 10 a.m.
 Sun. April 5.....Sunday Jam with Mark Krissenger - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Sun. April 5.....Madeira Market and P. H. Community Club Bake Sale - P.H. Community Hall, 10 a.m.
 Mon. April 6.....Splashin' Sneakers 'n Snacks - P. H. Pool, noon
 Sat. April 11.....P. H. Legion Ham & Turkey Meat Draw plus Pie Auction - P. H. Legion, 3 p.m.
 Sun. April 12.....Sunday Jam with Joe Stanton & the Precious Littles - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Sun. April 12.....P. H. Lions' Annual Pancake Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt - P. H. Lions' Hall, 9 a.m. -1 p.m.
 Sun. April 12.....Family Easter Swim - P. H. Pool, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
 Mon. April 13.....Royal Canadian Legion Branch #112 General Meeting, 7pm
 Tues. April 14.....P. H. Women's Connection Annual Chinese Auction, P. H. School of Music, 10 a.m.
 Tues. April 14.....P. H. Community Club meeting - P. H. Community Hall, 7 p.m.
 Fri. April 17.....Reception for MLA Nicholas Simons, P. H. Music School, 2 - 5 p.m.
 Sat. April 18.....Harbour Learning Centre presents "B.O.A.T. Pleasure Craft Operator Certificate"
 Sat. April 18.....P. H. Music Society presents Coco Love Alcorn - P. H. School of Music, 8 p.m. ----- 7
 Sun. April 19.....Sunday Jam: Gaetan & the French Connection - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Mon. April 20.....P. H. Power and Sail Squadron VHF Operators Course starts - PHSS, 7 p.m.
 Tues. April 21.....P. H. Wildlife Society meeting - PHSS, 7 p.m.
 Wed. April 22.....Harbour Learning Centre presents "Maintaining a Healthy Computer"
 Sat. April 25.....April Tools Wooden Boat Challenge - Millennium Park, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Sun. April 26.....Sunday Jam with Mark Vance & the Convertibles - Garden Bay Pub
 Mon. April 27.....P. H. Food Bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 12-12:30 p.m.
 Mon. April 27.....P. H. Health Centre Auxiliary meeting - P. H. School of Music, 1 p.m.
 Wed. April 29.....Area A APC - PHSS (Room 107), 7 p.m.
 Wed. April 29.....Harbour Learning Centre presents "What in the World is Out There?"

Coco
LOVE ALCORN



FERRY DEPARTURES

Effective September 2 - June 29, 2009

Crossing time: Langdale 40 min./Earl's Cove 50 min. Ticket sales end 10 min. before sailing for foot passengers, 5 min. before for vehicles. See www.bcferries.com for information on added sailings during peak periods.



Langdale

*6:20 a.m.
 8:20 a.m.
 10:20 a.m.
 11:00 a.m. (Apr. 10 & May 18)
 12:20 p.m.
 2:30 p.m.
 3:00 p.m. (May 14 / 15 only)
 4:30 p.m.
 5:00 p.m. (April 9 only)
 6:30 p.m.
 8:20 p.m.
 10:10 p.m. (Oct. 13 / May 18 only)

Horseshoe Bay

*7:20 a.m.
 9:20 a.m.
 10:00 a.m. (Apr. 10 & May 18)
 11:20 a.m.
 1:20 p.m.
 2:00 p.m. (May 14 / 15 only)
 3:30 p.m.
 4:00 p.m. (April 9 only)
 5:30 p.m.
 7:25 p.m.
 9:15 p.m.
 11:00 p.m. (Oct. 13 / May 18 only)

Earl's Cove

*6:30 a.m.
 8:25 a.m.
 10:25 a.m.
 12:30 p.m.
 4:25 p.m.
 6:25 p.m.
 8:20 p.m.
 10:10 p.m.

Saltery Bay

*5:35 a.m.
 7:25 a.m.
 9:25 a.m.
 11:25 a.m.
 3:20 p.m.
 5:25 p.m.
 7:20 p.m.
 9:15 p.m.

Note: schedule differs slightly for Oct. 10 & 13, Dec. 24 & 26, Jan. 1 and May 18 -- see website.

♦ Daily except Dec. 25 & Jan. 1

* Daily except Sundays & Dec. 25



We make it easier for you

Troy and Lorie would like to thank everyone for their continuous support throughout the year.

By doing so we are able to build a stronger community by supporting these organizations, foundations and festivals.

Sunshine Coast Lions Club
Sunshine Coast Rotary Club
Cops for Cancer
Pender Harbour Music Society
Pender Harbour Jazz Festival
Push for the Cure Breast Cancer
Abbyfield House/Area A Seniors Housing
Egmont Heritage Centre
Bill Funk Memorial Golf Tournament
P. H. Community Policing Station
Pender Harbour Fire Department
Pender Harbour Fall Faire
P. H. Legion #112
Pender Harbour Food Bank
Madeira Park Elementary School Hot Lunch
P. H. High School Hot Lunch
Sunshine Coast Racquetball Club
Serendipity Pre-School
Pender Harbour Choir
Pender Harbour May Day
Pender Harbour Health Clinic
Happy Cat Haven
Egmont Fire Department
S.P.C.A.
Breakfast For Kids
S. C. Wooden Boat Festival
April Tools
Coasters Car Club
Sunshine Coast Community Services
Pender Harbour Blues Festival
Pender Harbour Coast Guard Auxiliary
Sunshine Coast Salmon Enhancement
P. H. Women's Connection
Garden Bay Fire Department
and more.



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Come visit our new
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3rd Annual Garden Bay Classic Fishing Derby - May 1, 2 & 3

\$1000 - Biggest Salmon • \$1000 - Reverse Draw • \$1000? - Open boat auction/Calcutta Draw

Friday, May 1: Derby Registration and Calcutta Draw, 5 p.m.

Anyone can take part in the live auction (Calcutta) to bid on whose boat will catch the biggest fish. If your skipper wins, you take the pot. (Past year's winners won close to \$1000.)

Saturday, May 2: Derby and Dinner

Fishing all day with dinner at 6 p.m. (included)

Sunday, May 3: Weigh In - 1 pm

Awards following 1 p.m. weigh-in:

Prizes, \$1000 reverse draw,
Calcutta Draw and \$1000 for
biggest salmon.

\$100 Entry fee

Profits to salmon
enhancement.

Live Music Sundays @ 2 pm

APRIL 5: Mark Krissenger

APRIL 12: Joe Stanton & the Precious Littles

APRIL 19: Gaetan & the French Connection

APRIL 26: Mark Vance & the Convertibles

Pub Specials

MONDAY: Beer & Burger (Fully loaded with fries)

WEDNESDAY: Chicken wing Wednesday!

FRIDAY: Meat Draws - Proceeds to P.H. Abbeyfield House

SATURDAY: Prime Rib

SUNDAY: Eggs Benny



GARDEN BAY PUB

OPEN DAILY AT 11... (604)883-2674